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Big Water
Rigs



Marion FD – Engine 3
750 gpm Pumper
Marion, Kansas

Facts and Figures...

- Engine 3 is a 1969, American Fire Apparatus pumper operated by the Marion FD located in Marion County, Kansas.
- The rig is built on a Chevy chassis and has a Barton American 750 gpm, single stage front-mount pump.
- It carries 500 gallons of water and 1,200 ft of 2-1/2-inch hose.
- The Marion FD protects the small City of Marion and the rural, prairie lands of Marion County, Kansas.

Marion Engine 3



The front-mounted pump has been a mainstay of the rural fire service for many years. This type of pump configuration allows for easy access to drafting sites where space is limited.

Marion Engine 3



The commercial chassis also has been a mainstay of the rural fire service. It generally comes at a lower price and perhaps more importantly – can be serviced by local dealers.

Marion Engine 3



Engine 3 has a pretty simple configuration that meets the needs of this rural fire department. Of course, it would be nice to see some 4" or 5" LDH in place of that 2-1/2" hose – but again – funding can be an issue.

Marion Engine 3



Engine 3 is shown here operating as a fill site pumper at a water supply drill in 2010. The experienced operator supplemented the 4-1/2" suction line by using a 2-1/2" "pony suction." Doing this increased the pumper's capacity to around 1,000 gpm.

Marion Engine 3



This pumper is also equipped with an external control valve on the suction intake. A suction intake valve is probably one of the best investments that a FD can make to enhance its drafting operations.



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